

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A basketball goal assembly comprising:
  - a backboard including a front surface, a rear surface, a first side and a second side;
  - a first weight positioned proximate the first side of the backboard;
  - a second weight positioned proximate the second side of the backboard; and
  - a rim positioned proximate the front surface of the backboard;

wherein the first weight and the second weight are sized and configured to enhance the rebounding characteristics of the backboard.

2. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 1, further comprising a first internal portion disposed within the backboard and a second internal portion disposed within the backboard, the first weight being at least partially disposed within the first internal portion of the backboard and the second weight being at least partially disposed within the second internal portion of the backboard.

3. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 1, further comprising a first opening in the backboard and a second opening in the backboard, the first weight being at least partially disposed within the first opening and the second weight being at least partially disposed within the second opening.

4. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 1, wherein the first weight generally comprises a first sleeve that is attached to a first edge of the backboard and the

second weight generally comprises a second sleeve that is attached to a second edge of the backboard.

5. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 4, further comprising a first groove and a second groove disposed proximate the first side of the backboard and a first groove and a second groove disposed proximate the second side of the backboard, a first portion of the first weight being at least partially disposed within the first groove disposed proximate the first side of the backboard and a second portion of the first weight being at least partially disposed within the second groove disposed proximate the first side of the backboard, a first portion of the second weight being at least partially disposed within the first groove disposed proximate the second side of the backboard and a second portion of the second weight being at least partially disposed within the second groove disposed proximate the second side of the backboard.

6. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the backboard is constructed from blow-molded plastic.

7. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 1, wherein the first weight and the second weight are constructed from generally rigid materials that are sized and configured to increase the rigidity of the backboard.

8. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 1, further comprising a reinforcement structure attached to the backboard, at least a portion of the reinforcement structure generally extending from the first side to the second side of the backboard.

9. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 1, further comprising a reinforcement structure generally disposed about the periphery of the backboard.

10. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 1, further comprising a reinforcement structure attached to the backboard, the first weight forming at least a first portion of a reinforcement structure and the second weight forming at least a second portion of the reinforcement structure.

11. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 10, wherein the reinforcement structure includes an elongated member that generally extends from the first side to the second side of the backboard.

12. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 10, wherein the reinforcement structure is generally disposed about the periphery of the backboard.

13. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 1, wherein the first weight is removably connected to the first side of the backboard and the second weight is removably connected to the second side of the backboard.

14. A basketball backboard comprising:

a support frame including a first side and a second side;

a rebound member attached to the support frame;

a first weight that is sized and configured to be attached to the first side of the support frame to enhance the rebounding characteristics of the basketball backboard; and

a second weight that is sized and configured to be attached to the second side of the support frame to enhance the rebounding characteristics of the basketball backboard.

15. The basketball backboard as in Claim 14, further comprising a first internal portion disposed within the support frame and a second internal portion disposed within the support frame, the first weight being at least partially disposed within the first internal portion of the support frame and the second weight being at least partially disposed within the second internal portion of the support frame.

16. The basketball backboard as in Claim 14, further comprising a first opening in the support frame and a second opening in the support frame, the first weight being at least partially disposed within the first opening and the second weight being at least partially disposed within the second opening.

17. The basketball backboard as in Claim 14, wherein the first weight generally comprises a first sleeve that is attached to a first edge of the support frame and the second

weight generally comprises a second sleeve that is attached to a second edge of the support frame.

18. The basketball backboard as in Claim 14, wherein at least a portion of the support frame is constructed from blow-molded plastic.

19. The basketball backboard as in Claim 14, further comprising a reinforcement structure attached to the support frame, at least a portion of the reinforcement structure generally extending from the first side to the second side of the support frame.

20. The basketball backboard as in Claim 14, further comprising a reinforcement structure generally disposed about the periphery of the support frame.

21. The basketball backboard as in Claim 14, further comprising a reinforcement structure attached to the support frame, the first weight forming at least a first portion of a reinforcement structure and the second weight forming at least a second portion of the reinforcement structure.

22. The basketball backboard as in Claim 21, wherein the reinforcement structure includes an elongated member that generally extends from the first side to the second side of the support frame.

23. The basketball backboard as in Claim 21, wherein the reinforcement structure is generally disposed about the periphery of the support frame.

24. A basketball goal assembly comprising:

a backboard including a front surface and a rear surface;

a first weight that is capable of being attached to the perimeter backboard, the first weight being sized and configured to enhance the rebounding performance of the backboard; and

a second weight that is capable of being attached to the perimeter backboard, the second weight being sized and configured to enhance the rebounding performance of the backboard.

25. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 24, further comprising a first internal portion disposed within the backboard and a second internal portion disposed within the backboard, the first weight being at least partially disposed within the first internal portion of the backboard and the second weight being at least partially disposed within the second internal portion of the backboard.

26. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 24, further comprising a first opening in the backboard and a second opening in the backboard, the first weight being at least partially disposed within the first opening and the second weight being at least partially disposed within the second opening.

27. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 24, wherein the first weight generally comprises a first sleeve that is attached to a first edge of the backboard and the second weight generally comprises a second sleeve that is attached to a second edge of the backboard.

28. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 27, further comprising a first groove and a second groove disposed proximate a first side of the backboard and a first groove and a second groove disposed proximate a second side of the backboard, a first portion of the first weight being at least partially disposed within the first groove disposed proximate the first side of the backboard and a second portion of the first weight being at least partially disposed within the second groove disposed proximate the first side of the backboard, a first portion of the second weight being at least partially disposed within the first groove disposed proximate the second side of the backboard and a second portion of the second weight being at least partially disposed within the second groove disposed proximate the second side of the backboard.

29. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 24, wherein at least a portion of the backboard is constructed from blow-molded plastic.

30. The basketball goal assembly as in Claim 24, wherein the first weight and the second weight are constructed from generally rigid materials that are sized and configured to increase the rigidity of the backboard.